Agricultural Marketing Service STOP 0253- Room 2610-S 1400 Independence Ave. S.W. Washington, DC 20250-0253

ANNOUNCEMENT LS-12

June 2004

PURCHASE OF FROZEN, COOKED PRODUCTS FOR DISTRIBUTION TO CHILD NUTRITION AND OTHER FEDERAL FOOD AND NUTRITION PROGRAMS

I. GENERAL

A. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) will periodically issue Invitations under this Announcement for offers to sell to USDA frozen, cooked products as described in the attached References to Applicable Bid and Contract Provisions (Exhibit A). In addition to product description, this exhibit also provides information on the applicable Item Description and Checklist of Requirements (IDCR) for each frozen cooked product.

The frozen cooked products will be purchased on a competitive bid basis from suppliers who have met the requirements described in Section I.D.5. Interested suppliers may submit samples and technical proposals at any time during this purchase program. Suppliers should allow 10 working days from receipt of the technical proposal by USDA for notification of results of the evaluation of the cooked product sample(s) and technical proposal(s) from the Contracting Officer. Following notification of acceptance of the cooked product(s) and technical proposal(s), a supplier should promptly request a pre-award supplier assessment audit as outlined in Section I.D.5. A supplier is deemed eligible to bid after notification by the Contracting Officer.

Submission of sample(s) and technical proposal(s) is not binding on USDA. Actual purchases will be on a competitive bid basis as described in this Announcement and separately issued Invitations. The Invitations will specify the product type, offer date, closing time for receipt of bids, shipping period, destinations with any transportation restrictions, and any other provisions applicable to the proposed procurement, which are in addition to or different from those set forth herein. (see Exhibit B for an example of an Invitation.) Bids solicited under this Announcement and applicable Invitations are for delivery of products to USDA on an f.o.b. destination or f.a.s. vessel basis only.

Additional bid and contract provisions are included in the Annual Certifications, Representations, and Warranties (Appendix-1) and the General Terms and Conditions for the Procurement of Agricultural Commodities or Services, Revision 2, dated November 1984, and Amendments 1, 2, 3, and 4 dated October 1990, November 1990, August 1989, and March 1990, respectively, hereinafter referred to as USDA-1.

B. Offerors are cautioned to carefully read this Announcement, Appendix-1, USDA-1, Invitations, IDCR, and applicable instructions of the Agricultural Marketing Services' (AMS), Audit, Review, and Compliance (ARC) Branch. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror's risk. These documents are incorporated into the contract (see Section IV. of this Announcement). Offerors are cautioned that statements made by persons other than the Contracting Officer, written or implied, are not binding on the Government unless confirmed in writing by the Contracting Officer.

C. Offer Prices and Evidence of Delivery

Offer prices must be quoted and delivery of product must be on the basis of f.o.b. trucks or railcars at destinations or f.a.s. vessel as specified in the applicable Invitation. Certain destinations require delivery by TRUCK ONLY or RAIL ONLY and will be so identified in the Invitation. All products whether shipped by truck, rail, or piggyback must be palletized and stretchwrapped in accordance with instructions contained in the IDCR and the contractor's approved technical proposal, unless the Invitation and subsequent contract specifies "NO PALLETS." Contractors may arrange for pallet exchange with consignee, however, USDA is in no way responsible for such arrangements. Destinations not participating in a pallet exchange program will be noted on Invitations. Offers submitted on a basis other than f.o.b. destination or f.a.s. vessel will be rejected as nonresponsive.

When notified of shipments, consignees may request upgrading of delivery services; for example, delivery within the consignee's premises or to a specific room within a building. Such delivery terms are beyond USDA contractual requirements. Any negotiations to upgrade services are between contractor and consignee and any additional charges for special delivery terms are between the consignee and the contractor. Any charges invoiced to USDA for additional delivery services will be denied.

When making deliveries to more than one destination from the same railcar, the quantities required at each stopoff must be placed in separate compartments under seal. Each railcar compartment must be stacked in a manner that will preclude containers shifting while in transit.

Contracts will be awarded on an f.o.b. destination or f.a.s. vessel basis with quality assurance determined by USDA through a pre-award assessment and post-award audits described in Section I.D.5. Contractor must furnish, in support of the contractor's invoice, a Certificate of Conformance (COC) [see Exhibit C] and a copy of the signed commercial bill of lading indicating the carrier's receipt of the product covered by the invoice for transportation to the destination specified in the contract. If transportation is provided by other than common carrier, the Contractor must attach to the invoice a receipted copy of the appropriate delivery document evidencing date of delivery and quantity received at the destination specified in the contract.

D. Responsibility of Offeror

1. Annual Certifications, Representations, and Warranties

An offeror intending to submit bids must complete Annual Certifications, Representations, and Warranties in Appendix-1 and return it to the Contracting Officer at the mailing address listed in Section II. A. of this Announcement prior to the submission of its initial bid. The Appendix must be signed by an officer of the company. If there are any changes or revisions to the annual Appendix-1, offeror must submit an updated Appendix to the Contracting Officer or submit corrections or revisions prior to bid submission.

2. Standard Form 129--Solicitation Mailing List Application

An Offeror intending to submit bids must also complete a Solicitation Mailing List Application (SF-129) and return it to the Contracting Officer at the mailing address listed in Section II. A. of this Announcement prior to the submission of its initial bid.

All items (except Item 18) of the SF-129 must be completed. (see Exhibit D). Offeror must also include the following information for Items 4, 8, 10, 14, 16B, 19, and 20:

Items 4 and 8: Employer's identification number.

Item 8: Identify all affiliates of Offeror (applicant as shown in 4) by providing full

name, main office address, and employer's identification number and Tax Payer Identification Number (TIN) of the affiliates. An "affiliate" is

defined on the back of the SF-129.

Item 10: The product purchased by USDA which the Offeror is interested in

supplying weekly volume of production, capacity, and percent of capacity available for USDA contracts. Attach separate list if additional space is

needed.

Item 14: Company's TIN

Item 16B: Identify the freezer or warehouse to be used and its storage capacity.

Items 19 and 20: Must be an officer of the company.

Offeror must certify with each bid to the accuracy of the current SF-129 and Appendix-1 on file with the Contracting Officer.

3. Responsibility

A firm submitting an offer under this Announcement must meet the Federal standards for responsibility contained in Title 48 C.F.R. Subpart 9.1, USDA-1, this Announcement, and Invitations. A determination of the responsibility contained in Title 48 C.F.R. Subpart 9.1 must be made prior to a firm submitting a technical proposal and sample evaluation. Facilities used in fulfilling USDA contracts must be operating under the provisions of the Federal Meat Inspection Act (FMIA), 21 U.S.C. 601 et seq. and the regulations issued thereunder.

Contractor must be registered under the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) System as prescribed in Title 48 C.F.R., Subpart 4.1104 and will certify in Appendix-1 on file with the Contracting Officer.

Offeror must ensure that all products offered for USDA purchases are in compliance with applicable contract and specification requirements. Offeror shall authorize the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) unrestricted access to all records that pertain to USDA contracts.

4. Food Security Requirements

Contractor must have a written food security plan that provides for the security of a plant's production processes. The plan shall address the following areas: 1) food security plan management, 2) outside and inside security of the facility, 3) slaughter and processing, 4) shipping and receiving, 5) storage, 6) water and ice supply, 7) mail handling, and 8) personnel security. The plan will be subject to periodic review by the AMS, ARC Branch. See FSIS Security Guidelines for Food Processors at the following web address: http://www.fsis.usda.gov/OA/topics/SecurityGuide.pdf

5. Documentation and Assessment Requirements

To become an eligible supplier, the following must be submitted to the Contracting Officer at Agricultural Marketing Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Stop 0253, Room 2610-South Building, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW., Washington, D.C. 20250-0253, for evaluation and approval prior to bidding:

a. Technical Proposal Requirement:

- 1) Include a detailed description of each item planned to be offered and each of the production steps taken to meet or exceed the minimum product requirements set forth in the applicable IDCR. (Plan/Do)
- 2) Describe all the quality assurance methods used to verify conformance to all requirements. This will include the monitoring and measurements taken during the process to verify conformance with each requirement. All measurement results shall be recorded and made available to AMS. (Check)
- 3) Identify all corrective actions to be taken if deviations from contractual and specification requirements occur during production, and all preventative actions to be taken to preclude a reoccurrence. (Act)
- 4) The technical proposal shall follow the format as describe in Section II. E., Technical Proposal format. Offeror's proposal should be brief and concise.
- 5) The proposal shall be preceded by the following, as required by the template:
 - a) Table of contents listing the major areas as they appear in the technical proposal template; and
 - b) List of attachments, forms provided with the proposal, if appropriate.
- 6) The technical proposal should be written in the following format:
 - a) Plan and Do A description of the planning and production steps taken to meet each requirement.
 - b) Check Describes all the quality assurance methods that will be used to verify conformances to each requirement. This will include the monitoring and measurement taken during the process (all measurements results shall be recorded and made available to AMS upon request).
 - c) Act Identifies all corrective actions to be taken if deviations from contractual and specification occur during production and all preventative actions taken to preclude reoccurrences.

b. Product Sample Requirement:

1) Two 10 pound samples of each item offered including the label, ingredient statement and Nutrition Facts Panel that conforms to the IDCR.

Note: A supplier must submit cooked samples that coincide with the product that is produced under the technical proposal

The COTR will review each technical proposal to determine if the proposal and samples are adequate. The Contracting Officer will notify the supplier of the status of their sample(s) and technical proposal.

Once a supplier is notified by the Contracting Officer that samples and technical proposal meet the applicable criteria, the ARC Branch will contact the supplier to set up a pre-award onsite capability assessment.

c. Assessment by the ARC Branch

After the sample(s) and the technical proposal(s) are evaluated and approved, an ARC Branch auditor will perform an onsite assessment of the facilities, processes, and quality control program used to produce the product(s) to determine the supplier's ability to meet contractual requirements. The following assessments will apply:

1) Pre-Award On-site Capability Assessment:

The pre-award on-site assessment (audit) will include, but is not limited to, a thorough evaluation of the potential contractors' and subcontractors' facilities, processes, quality control program, equipment, procedures, and the appropriate documents and forms used during the production of the cooked products. Documentation must support the production of a cooked product that complies with the applicable IDCR and the potential contractor's approved technical proposal. In addition, the audit will consist of the review of records related to purchasing, receiving, production, quality control, inventory and shipping records, and interviews with management and production personnel.

Upon completion of the onsite capability assessment, the auditor will provide a report to the Contracting Officer for final review. After the samples have met the evaluation criteria and the supplier has satisfactorily completed the pre-award onsite capability assessment, the supplier will receive written notification from the Contracting Officer of their eligibility to bid.

If the report states the process is inadequate, the applicant will be notified by the Contracting Officer that they are ineligible to bid. The applicant will have the opportunity to correct identified deficiencies, modify their process and/or technical proposal, and resubmit for further consideration. Eligibility will depend on whether modifications demonstrate that the process is capable of delivering frozen cooked products in compliance with the applicable IDCR, the applicable assessment by USDA, and other applicable contractual requirements.

2) Post-Award Assessment

Eligible suppliers who receive contracts must have their technical proposals and supporting documentation readily available for review by AMS agents. Records may be maintained on hard copy or electronic media. However, records maintained as electronic media will be made available in printed form immediately upon request by AMS or its agents.

The ARC Branch will conduct an onsite audit of the contractor's and subcontractor's facilities and processes when production commences for the first contract awarded. Additional audits will be conducted as determined by the Contracting Officer, but not less than once per month for contractors with continuous contracts, or once per contract for intermittent contractors. At the discretion of the Contracting Officer, more frequent audits may be conducted when audit deficiencies are detected.

3) Post-Award Actions

Any deviation from contractual requirements will be immediately reported by the contractor to the Contracting Officer. The Contracting Officer will notify the contractor regarding eligibility to continue to participate as a contractor.

Contractor will assure that the delivered product complies with the provisions of the IDCR, the applicable assessment by USDA, and the contractor's technical proposal approved by the Contracting Officer.

6. Responsibility of Subcontractors/Suppliers

Contractor shall include, and the subcontractor must meet, the responsibility terms in paragraph D.3. of this section in every subcontract for supplies or services used by the contractor in fulfilling USDA contracts, either directly or indirectly, and obtain certification of responsibility as described in Appendix-1 to Announcement LS-12 from any subcontractors and suppliers.

Contractors shall include, and subcontractors must comply with, the domestic products clause in paragraph I.F. of this section for all subcontracts for meat or meat products used in fulfilling any contracts under this Announcement. Prior to their performance on the contract, subcontractors or suppliers of the cooked products to be used in fulfilling contracts must be approved by the ARC Branch for compliance with domestic origin and slaughter requirements.

Subcontractors or suppliers of the cooked products are (1) ineligible if they do not have a domestic product and slaughter programs approved by the ARC Branch; or if they are currently delivering late on USDA contracts or USDA-approved subcontracts and late delivery is not due to causes beyond their control; and (2) nonresponsible if they are not operating under the provisions of the Federal Meat Inspection Act or have been suspended or debarred under the provisions of 48 C.F.R. Subpart 9.4.

7. Past Performance

The offeror must certify to timely performance on current contracts and subcontracts in **Item 4** of the Certification Section under the Domestic Electronic Bid Entry System (DEBES) offer. (see Exhibit E). A determination that any past or current late performance was beyond the control or negligence of the contractor or the contractor's subcontractor <u>must be made by the Contracting Officer prior to bid opening</u>. An offeror will be deemed nonresponsible if the offeror **or any of its affiliates or subcontractors** are delivering late on other contracts or subcontracts with USDA and the late delivery is not due to causes beyond the contractor's or the contractor's subcontractor's control. This provision, as it pertains to small business, is a deviation from 48 C.F.R. Subpart 19.6.

A false certification may result in rejection of the offer, suspension and debarment by USDA, termination of the contract, liability for damages under the provisions of USDA-1, or criminal prosecution.

Offerors are cautioned NOT TO BID on product quantities exceeding a level that the offeror can reasonably expect to deliver in accordance with the contract schedule. On-time delivery is imperative because this product is used in school lunch and other USDA Federal food and nutrition programs. Late deliveries cause serious and substantial damages to USDA and to recipient agencies, some of which cannot be compensated for by liquidated damages.

Contractor shipping late on contract(s) must immediately notify the Contracting Officer of late shipments. If the contractor intends to request an extension due to causes beyond the control or negligence of the contractor, such notice must be made to the Contracting Officer 3 business days in advance of a bid opening in which the Contractor wants to bid. Notification and request for extension must include: (1) documentary evidence of causes beyond contractor's control for each day requested, (2) a production report of completed and/or expected production, including pounds and dates, and (3) actual delivery dates by Notice-to-Deliver (N/D) numbers (see Article 68 of USDA-1).

E. Buy American Certification

End products furnished must be of domestic origin as defined in section I.F. below. This provision is a deviation from 48 C.F.R. Part 25 and for the purposes of this Announcement supersedes Article 49 of USDA-1. Other minor ingredients, e.g., seasonings, must comply with Article 49 of USDA-1.

F. Domestic Products

All meat or meat products used in fulfilling contracts awarded under Announcement LS-12 must be produced in the United States. United States produced (hereafter referred to as U.S.-produced) beef and pork means manufactured from livestock raised in the United States, its territories, possessions, Puerto Rico, or the Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands (hereinafter referred to as the United States). U.S.-produced does not include imported beef or pork and cattle or hogs imported for direct slaughter. If any pork or beef products originating from sources other than the United States are processed or handled, the contractor will develop and maintain an identification and record system for these products to ensure they are segregated and not used to fulfill contracts awarded under this Announcement. Such

segregation plan must be approved by the ARC Branch and made available to the ARC Branch agent. The contractor will maintain records including, but not limited to, invoices, production and inventory records evidencing product origin, and will make such records available for review by the Government in accordance with Article 76 of USDA-1.

Prior to performance on USDA contracts or subcontracts, contractors and meat subcontractors must obtain approval of its domestic origin program and slaughter requirements from the ARC Branch (see ARC Branch Instruction 1010 USDA Supplier Eligibility Program) for requesting reviews of these requirements.

The contractor agrees to include this domestic origin certification clause in its entirety in all subcontracts for meat or meat products used in fulfilling any contracts awarded under this Announcement and obtain certification from each meat or meat products subcontractor that (1) the subcontractor has been approved by the ARC Branch for compliance with domestic origin and slaughter requirements; (2) the subcontractor will deliver only meat or meat products originating from U.S.-produced livestock as defined herein; and (3) meat produced under their approved domestic and slaughter plan will be shipped in containers labeled as "Domestic Only Product" on the principle display panel.

Contractor must obtain certification from suppliers either by letter that identifies product by production lot or a U.S.-produced statement on the label. Other minor ingredients, e.g., seasonings, must be U.S.-produced unless such product is not manufactured in the United States.

The subcontractor will deliver only frozen, cooked products completely processed in the U.S.

- G. Cancellation, Rescission, and Recovery of Funds for Illegal or Improper Activity
 - 1. If the Government receives information that a contractor or a person acting for the contractor has engaged in conduct constituting a violation of subsection (a), (b), (c), or (d) of section 27 of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy Act (41 U.S.C. 423) (the Act), as amended by section 4304 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1996 (P.L. 104-106), the Government may:
 - a. Cancel the solicitation, if the contract has not yet been awarded or issued; or
 - b. Rescind the contract with respect to which:
 - 1) The contractor or someone acting for the contractor has been convicted for an offense where the conduct constitutes a violation of subsection 27(a) or (b) of the Act for the purpose of either (a) exchanging the information covered by such subsections for anything of value; or (b) obtaining or giving anyone a competitive advantage in the award of a Federal agency procurement contract; or
 - 2) The head of the contracting activity has determined, based upon a preponderance of the evidence, that the contractor or someone acting for the

contractor has engaged in conduct constituting an offense punishable under subsection 27(e)(1) of the Act.

- 2. If the Government rescinds the contract under paragraph 1 of this clause, the Government is entitled to recover, in addition to any penalty prescribed by law, the amount expended under the contract.
- 3. The rights and remedies of the Government specified herein are not exclusive, and are in addition to any other rights and remedies provided by law, regulation, or under this contract.

H. Service of Protest

- 1. Protests, as defined in 48 C.F.R. part 33.101, that are filed directly with an agency, and copies of any protests that are filed with the General Accounting Office (GAO), shall be served on the Contracting Officer by obtaining written and dated acknowledgment of receipt from the Contracting Officer designated in Section II. A.
- 2. A copy of any protest must be received by the Contracting Officer at the FAX or mailing address listed in Section II. A. within 1 business day of filing a protest with the GAO.

II. SUBMISSION OF OFFERS

A. Where and How to Submit Offers

1. Electronic Submission of Offers

All Offers must be submitted electronically by accessing DEBES. Browser requirements for DEBES for electronic bidding are described in Attachment III. An offeror must request and receive a DEBES Logon ID in order to access the website (see Attachment IV for the form to request a logon ID). Only suppliers deemed responsible by the Contracting Officer will receive a DEBES Logon ID.

The DEBES system will generally be available all day Saturday until 9:00 p.m., Central Time, and on Sundays from 8:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m., Central Time. System availability may at times be subject to interruptions in service due to unscheduled maintenance.

Access the DEBES website at: https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe?

Once connected to DEBES, follow the online procedures. Click on the "Help" button for detailed instructions on using the system or call 202-720-2650 for assistance.

AMS will not be responsible for any failure attributed to the transmission of the bid data prior to being accepted and stored on our web server including, but not limited, to the following:

- a. Any failure of the offeror's computer hardware or software,
- b. Availability of your Internet service provider,

- c. Delay in transmission due to the speed of your modem, or
- d. Delay in transmission due to excessive volume of Internet traffic.

If an offeror's Internet Service Provider (ISP) is not available, an offeror may submit a bid via facsimile (FAX). If an offeror plans to submit a bid via FAX, offeror MUST contact the Contracting Officer for approval prior to faxing offers.

Note: Exhibits E and F provide an example of how offers may be submitted by fax:

e. Facilities for receiving offers by FAX are as follows:

FAX (202) 720 -0949 (24 Hours)

f. Verification: USDA-AMS-LS-CP-Branch

(202) 720-2650 (6:30 a.m. - 4:00 p.m., Central Time, Monday - Friday)

Faxed offers, modifications, or withdrawals of offers must be addressed as follows:

Contracting Officer Livestock and Seed Program Agricultural Marketing Service U.S. Department of Agriculture Stop 0253 Room 2610-South Building 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250-0253

B. Where and When to Submit Offers

Offers, modifications, or withdrawals of offers must be submitted to the Contracting Officer, Livestock and Seed Program, Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C. 20250.

Offers, modifications, or withdrawals of offers under this Announcement must be received in the **DEBES Lockbox or**, **if authorized by the Contracting Officer**, **faxed to the** USDA, AMS, LS, CP Branch **not later than 1:00 p.m.**, **Central Time**, on the date specified in the Invitation. Invitations will be issued by FAX and be available electronically through the USDA, AMS Commodity Procurement Home Page and posted on the DEBES Internet site. If the planned bid date falls on a nonworkday for USDA employees in the District of Columbia, offers, modifications, or withdrawals are to be received by **1:00 p.m.**, **Central Time** on the next succeeding business day. Whether an offer, modification, or withdrawal is received within the time limitation will be determined by the last submission time recorded in DEBES or electronically captured at the USDA, AMS, LSP, CP Branch in the event a bid is faxed.

NOTE: Once AMS has established an external portal site, invitations will no longer be sent by FAX, unless requested by supplier or USDA is experiencing technical difficulties at the portal site. Eligible suppliers will be granted access to the site

and can subscribe to the appropriate folder(s). USDA will notify suppliers through a Notice to Trade.

C. Shipping Periods

Planned shipping periods by invitation are identified in Exhibit G. USDA may change this schedule or cease purchases depending on market conditions or funding considerations. Contracts will be awarded on a shipping period basis. The shipping period will be a specific period identified with each Invitation issued under this Announcement. Bidders are cautioned to refer to the applicable Invitation prior to bidding.

Shipping periods will be on the first half and second half of the month (e.g., May 1-15 and May16-31).

D. Purchase Units

The purchase unit size for the various frozen, cooked products is shown in Exhibit A. The quantity offered on bids must be in purchase unit increments. An offeror may bid the entire quantity on the Invitation or a greater amount, but not less than one unit (e.g., 40,000 pounds). Only one offer price may be quoted to any delivery point listed from each shipping point, including combined destinations bracketed as one line item. Offerors may rearrange the destination sequence on these combined delivery units.

E. What to Submit

Electronic Bid:

An offer must include each of the following items:

Section 1--General

- 1. Name, phone number, and complete address and zip code of Offeror (include both street and mailing address if different).
- 2. Identify submission as a bid. STATE: Bid--ANNOUNCEMENT LS-12, Invitation No. .
- 3. Name and street address including zip code of (a) final processing point and (b) shipping point.

Section 2--Offer Form

1. Item number listed on applicable Invitation, destination, and price per pound delivered to specific destination, <u>segregated</u> by <u>product type if more than one is requested</u>.

Notes: For bids other than electronic, offerors may, <u>at their own risk</u>, exclude name of destination. Errors in item number(s) will not be apparent to Contracting Officer.

Quote only one delivered price per pound for each destination or multiple destinations listed as one item number. If more than one price per item is quoted, the line item will be ruled nonresponsive.

Estimated number of purchase units by destination will be listed on the Invitation. The offeror must not indicate the number of purchase units by destination. USDA may adjust the quantities listed on the Invitation based on offerings, market conditions, and/or program requirements.

Transportation restrictions will be shown on the Invitations.

The offeror may submit offers for as many destinations as desired. The maximum quantity to be awarded is determined by the constraints quoted in Section 3, Constraints, of the bid.

Offer prices may be quoted up to four places to the right of the decimal point. If other than four places, any digit past the fourth will automatically be dropped.

Section 3--Constraints

1. State maximum quantity overall for each commodity type (if applicable) to be awarded and/or maximum quantity overall for both in number of purchase units and equivalent net pounds for shipment to required destinations between <a href="(date) and (date) are the following th

Notes: If offering for more than one processing point, be sure to indicate the number of units offered for each commodity type and/or maximum quantity overall for each processing point.

Maximum quantity offered may be greater than demand shown on the Invitation.

Total maximum quantity overall for specific product types or Invitation is optional. If total overall is not quoted, AMS may award up to the maximum for each type.

State the applicable shipping period(s) associated with the Invitation.

Section 4--Certifications

- 1. For this bid, your company is designated as: (choose one)
 - □ Large Business
 - □ Large Minority Business

		Large Woman-Owned Business Large Woman-Owned Minority Business Small Business Small Minority Business Small Disadvantaged "Not 8A" Small Woman-Owned Minority Small Woman-Owned "Not 8A" "8a" Small Woman-Owned "8a" Small Disadvantaged
No	tes:	For bids submitted electronically, if default designation is incorrect, please choose correct designation and notify Contracting Officer.
2.	LS Co	submitting this bid, Offeror certifies it HAS read and DOES agree to the terms of -12; Appendix 1; Inv; Exhibit A dated May 2004, applicable IDCR, ntractor's technical proposal approved by the Contracting Officer; AMS ditor's initial report; USDA-1, Rev. 2, and Amds. 1, 2, 3, and 4.
	<u> </u>	HAS DOES
3.	to	Annual Representations, Certifications, and Warranties (Appendix 1) submitted the Contracting Officer are current, accurate, and complete. Submitted to ntracting Officer (mm/dd/yyyy):
	(b) N/.	If Appendix HAS been amended, enter date amended: or A.
4.		feror certifies that the SF-129 on file with the Contracting Officer is accurate and et of this offer.
	<u> </u>	Does Does Not
5.		products required under any existing USDA contract(s) or subcontract(s) with a st Later Than Date prior to this bid opening HAS been delivered?
		Has Not Has Not, But Has Notified C/O No Existing Contracts
6.	ap _j	submitting this bid, offeror certifies that all products conforms with the plicable Item Description and Checklist of Requirements and no changes to the eduction process or technical proposal have occurred without proper approval by a Contracting Officer.
		Does

7. Show name, title, fax number, and phone number of person submitting this bid (must be an authorized company representative).

Technical Proposal:

The following procedures establish the acceptable minimum requirements for the format and content of the proposals:

- 1. The Government has provided a technical proposal format which is to be used in preparing the technical proposal. (See **Exhibit H**) The offeror shall submit technical proposals in both hard copies and an electronic format either on disk (3.5" diskette or CD) or e-mail. The technical proposal shall be saved in the portable document file (PDF) format. This format and electronic form provided will aid in the evaluation of the technical proposal.
- 2. Offers must submit diskettes or CDs in sealed disk mailers that have been signed by the same individual signing the original paper copy of the technical proposal. Offers submitting the electronic PDF format by e-mail must have it sent by the same individual signing the original paper copy of the technical proposal. By signing both the technical proposal and disk mailer, this individual will be attesting to the data in both formats being identical. The seals on this information will be broken by the Contracting Officer only. The technical proposal must be submitted by an authorized agent of the company, as evidenced by the SF-129 on file with the Contracting Officer.

3. The offeror will submit the appropriate number of copies as stated in the table below:

Description	Number of	Number of
	Hard Copies	Diskettes/CD's
Technical Proposal	3 (Original + 2	1
1. 8 ½" x 11" White Paper;	copies)	
2. One sided-Single spaced (12 point	,	
font);		
3. Proposal to be provided in		
protected document holder; and		
4. Proposal submitted with all capital		
letters will be returned to offeror		
without further review.		

4. While it is not the desire of the Government to penalize an offeror for noncompliance with formatting instructions, technical evaluators may have difficulty grading the technical proposal to the fullest extent possible. Technical evaluators will not be required to search other subsections or sections of the offeror's technical proposal for information requested for evaluation.

Note: All hard copies and diskettes/CDs shall be mailed to the Contracting Officer at the address stated in Section II. A.

Technical Proposal Revisions

Changes to an offeror's technical proposal may be submitted based on the Government's Amendments, Clarification Request, pre-award and post-award assessments, or at the request of the offeror. Maintenance of the integrity and clarity of each technical proposal is critical. All technical proposal revisions must meet the following criteria:

- 1. Any changes to a technical proposal made by the offeror after its initial submittal shall be accomplished by submitting replacement pages or an entire technical proposal package. A cover letter must be submitted with the changes identified and an explanation of the need for the change. The offeror shall include the revision date and the appropriate page number(s).
- 2. Must be submitted in the same number of copies as the initial technical proposal and must have the same information provided on revised diskettes/CDs. The revised diskettes/CDs should contain only the pages that are being changed. Additional pages should be numbered using a page number suffix (e.g. 1.1, 1.2, 1.a., 1.b).
- 3. Submit changes to the technical proposals as a complete page change for each page on which a change occurs. Changes from the original page shall be on blue colored paper and the changes in text shall be highlighted or **bolded** and deletions in strikeout.

III. ACCEPTANCE OF OFFERS

The USDA will award contracts to offerors deemed eligible and responsible and whose bids conform to the Announcement and the applicable Invitation and whose bids are most advantageous to the Government in terms of, but not limited to, price, quantity needs at the specified destinations, and cost. The USDA requires a minimum acceptance period of 7 calendar days from the acceptance of offers. Acceptance of offers will be made by FAX filed at Washington, D.C., not later than midnight, local time, the seventh day following the day for receipt of offers. The official time of award is the date and time stamped on the contract faxed from the AMS, LS, CP Branch. Transmission of the contract is the official notice that the contract has been awarded. A notice of award will also be issued in the form of a Food Purchase Report (FPR) posted at the Department's Office of Information, News Division, after 1:00 p.m., Central Time on the day of acceptance. Information on awards will be available by telephone to bidders and interested parties promptly following the posting of the FPR or electronically through the USDA, AMS Commodity Procurement Home Page (see Notice attached). Inquiries may be made to a USDA-AMS Market News office or the Contracting Officer.

Failure to accept an offer will constitute rejection. Filing of the acceptance wire as specified above will result in a binding contract without further action by either party. The actual time of award described herein deviates from 48 C.F.R. 14.408-1.

IV. PROVISIONS OF CONTRACT

The contract consists of Announcement LS-12; the applicable Invitation; applicable IDCR, applicable ARC Branch instructions; contractor's or subcontractor's (manufacturer's) technical proposal approved by the Contracting Officer, the AMS Auditor's initial report, Contractor's offer including SF-129 and Appendix 1; the acceptance by USDA; USDA-1, and the Federal Acquisition Regulations, 48 CFR Section et seq. The following USDA-1 articles are excluded: Articles 34, 49, 50, 64(c), and all of Part E.

If the provisions of contract documents are not consistent, the following priority order will prevail: Invitation, Announcement, applicable IDCR, contractor or subcontractor's technical proposal approved by the Contracting Officer, AMS Auditor's initial report, Appendix 1, Federal Acquisition Regulations, and USDA-1.

V. PRODUCT ITEM DESCRIPTION AND CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS AND CERTIFICATION SERVICES

- A. Specifications for the cooked products will be set forth in the applicable IDCR. If documents are amended, appropriate amendments must be referenced.
- B. Compliance with processing requirements as described in the applicable IDCR, and contractor/subcontractor's process documentation and quality control program will be verified through audits by AMS agents. The cost of all audits, including the pre-award on-site assessment, must be borne by the contractor.
- C. Questions concerning AMS auditors should be discussed with the ARC Branch in Washington, D.C., at (202) 690-0406.

VI. LOSS DUE TO DETERIORATION, SPOILAGE, OR RECALL

A. Loss Due to Deterioration or Spoilage

The Contractor shall be held liable for losses due to deterioration or spoilage for which he or she is responsible, which are discovered within 6 months of the delivery date to USDA, in accordance with the provisions of Article 61 of USDA-1.

B. Liabilities Due to Product Recalled for Health or Safety Risk

In accordance with Article 60 of USDA-1, the contractor shall be held liable for failure of the commodity to meet all of the contract and specifications requirements. In the event product is recalled due to a health or safety risk, the contractor is responsible for removal and replacement of recalled products and reimbursement of State and local costs incurred as a result of the recall, as outlined in the Food and Nutrition Service's Commodity Holds and Recall Process (see below). These costs include, at a minimum, storage, transportation, processing, and distribution of the commodities.

If product under contract is to be delivered to a facility for further processing under contract with a State and the product is recalled, it will be handled in accordance with the Food and Nutrition Service's Commodity Holds and Recall Process. A copy of this report can be obtained at the following web address:

http://www.fns.usda.gov/fdd/foodsafety/hold-recallpros.pdf.

VII. CONTRACTOR CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMANCE AND CHECKLOADING

The contractor will not ship the product before receipt of shipping instructions from the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO). Inspection as required by Article 54 of USDA-1 will be performed by AMS agents through supplier pre-award assessment and post-award audits as described in the appropriate IDCR.

Contractor will perform checkloading examinations and complete a COC, at the time of shipment and include with each shipment, a copy of the COC and the contractor's checkloading certificate that includes all of the following information:

- 1. Contract Number
- 2. Notice to Deliver Number
- 3. Name of product
- 4. Shipping Date
- 5. Production lot number(s) and date each lot was produced
- 6. Count of shipping containers and total projected net weight in each production lot. The delivery unit will be 40,000 pounds net weight.
- 7. Identity of car or truck (car numbers and letters, seals, truck license, etc.) as applicable
- 8. Contractor certification that product conforms with the applicable IDCR;
- 9. Count and projected net weight verified.
- 10. Signature of company official responsible for checkloading.

VIII. SHIPMENT--TRANSFER OF TITLE

A. Shipping Requirements

Shipment must be made in accordance with this Announcement, the applicable Invitation, Articles 56 and 64(b) of USDA-1, and the Notice to Deliver (Form KC-269) issued by KCCO. The contractor must closely follow delivery notification instructions contained in the Notice to Deliver (N/D). Such notification of shipment is vital to proper execution of shipment, particularly in cases of minimal transit time.

The contractor must notify State distributing agencies and consignees of shipment. For rail shipment, notification must be made on the day of shipment. For truck shipment, notification of the estimated arrival time should be made as far in advance of delivery as possible. In addition, for truck or piggy-back shipment, the contractor must request and keep scheduled appointments. Unloading appointments for truck or piggy-back deliveries or shipment must be requested from the consignee contact party(s) at least 24 hours in advance of delivery. The contractor must include with each shipment the contractor's checkloading certificate, the COC, and a signed bill of lading or other commercial documentation evidencing the quantity shipped with each delivery. If product is shipped in other than a commercial carrier and a bill of lading is not issued, the contractor's checkloading certificate must document quantity shipped and contractor must obtain a commercial receipt (i.e., warehouse receipt) signed by recipient agent evidencing date of delivery and quantity of product received.

B. Tolerances

No tolerance from the quantity called for in the shipping instruction is permitted.

C. Early Delivery Requests

Requests for permission to deliver in advance of the "Not-Earlier-Than" date given in the N/D must be made to KCCO and approval will be granted if consignee is willing to accept product early and provides to KCCO the assurances required by KCCO of that arrangement.

D. Transfer of Title

Title and risk of loss will pass to USDA on the date of receipt of the product at the destination specified in the contract, as evidenced by suitable dated documentation such as the **commercial bill of lading**, warehouse receipt, dock receipt, or other similar signed and dated document evidencing delivery. If the contractor has the product in storage and transfer of title is requested, title will pass to USDA as evidenced by the **commercial bill of lading**. The contractor is responsible for any shortage or damages as evidenced by the **commercial bill of lading**, FNS-57 report, or other commercial receipt evidencing delivery of product.

IX. LIQUIDATED DAMAGES

A. Compensation to Contractor for Late Mailing of Notice-to-Deliver

Liquidated damages for delay in shipment due to late mailing of ND will be payable in accordance with Article 65 of USDA-1 and will be at the rate of 25 cents per hundredweight **net per calendar day**.

B. Compensation to USDA for Delays in Shipment

Timely delivery is important to fulfill the nutritional and dietary needs of persons consuming cooked products under the Child Nutrition and other Federal food and nutrition programs and for the efficient and proper administration of these programs. Liquidated damages for delay in shipment are payable at the rate of 25 cents per hundredweight net per day in accordance with Article 67 of USDA-1. For purposes of assessing liquidated damages for delay in shipment, the date shown on the contractor's checkloading certificate and COC is considered to be the date of shipment.

X. INVOICES AND PAYMENT

A. Shipping Period Contracts

Invoicing and payment will be handled in accordance with Article 70 of USDA-1. A properly prepared invoice consists of the following:

1. Contractor Checkloading

- (1) Invoicing as provided for on the Notice-to-Deliver (Form KC-269) or commercial invoice form;
- (2) Commercial bill of lading or other commercial receipt signed by recipient agent evidencing date of delivery and quantity of product received;
- (3) Original of contractor's checkloading certificate issued at time of shipment; and
- (4) Copy of the contractor's Certificate of Conformance.

If a commercial bill of lading signed by carrier's agent is not issued, the invoice package must include a **warehouse receipt** signed by recipient agent evidencing date of delivery and quantity of product received.

Any loss in transit will be determined by an Over, Short, or Damage Report (FNS-57) filed by recipient. KCMO will advise contractor of discrepancy and recover loss by setoff from future payments or process a claim.

Contractors are encouraged to instruct carriers to return bills of lading or other commercial receipts signed by recipient agents evidencing the date and quantity of product received to avoid conflicts. If there is a conflict, the bill of lading signed by the recipient representative will prevail unless the discrepancy is due to damage not discernable at time of delivery.

B. <u>Invoice Mailing & Interest</u>

1. The invoice package must be mailed or delivered to Kansas City Management Office (KCMO) at the address listed in Section XI of the Announcement. The outside of the package should be marked:

"Prompt Pay Provisions Apply--Meat Product Attn: Vendor Invoice Payment Section"

2. Interest will be paid in accordance with the provisions of the Prompt Payment Act, 31 USC 3901 et seq., if payment is made beyond the seventh day after the date of delivery. For payment purposes, the date of delivery will be the receipt date by KCMO of a properly prepared invoice.

C. Electronic Payment

USDA payments must be made directly to a financial banking institution. To receive payments electronically, complete the attached Form SF-3881, ACH Vendor Payment Enrollment Form and submit to the Kansas City Management Office, Commodity Financial Operations Division, Inventory Control Branch; Telephone (816) 926-6988 or access the form via the Internet at: https://pcsd.usda.gov:3076/finance/.

USDA will no longer issue a paper copy of the disbursement statement. Complete the attached address information form, which identifies payment disbursement statement address as well as other needed information.

XI. INOUIRIES

Inquiries pertaining to this Solicitation and applicable documents should be directed to:

Contracting Officer Livestock and Seed Program Agricultural Marketing Service U.S. Department of Agriculture Stop 0253, Room 2610-South Building 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, D.C. 20250

Telephone: (202) 720-2650

Inquiries concerning **shipping instructions** should be directed to:

Director, Kansas City Commodity Office (KCCO) Farm Service Agency U.S. Department of Agriculture P.O. Box 419205 Kansas City, MO 64141-6205

Telephone: (816) 926-6062

Inquiries concerning **payments** should be directed to:

Director, Kansas City Management Office (KCMO) Farm Service Agency U.S. Department of Agriculture P.O. Box 419205 Kansas City, MO 64141-6205

Telephone: (816) 926-6205

William Sessions (6/4/04) Associate Deputy Administrator Livestock and Seed Program Agricultural Marketing Service

Attachments



Agricultural Marketing Service

Stop 0253-Room 2610-S 1400 Independence Avenue, SW PAGE 1 OF 2

EXHIBIT A DATED JUNE 2004

Washington, DC 20250

CHECKLIST AND REFERENCES TO APPLICABLE BID AND CONTRACT PROVISIONS ANNOUNCEMENT LS-12, FOR FROZEN, COOKED PRODUCTS

PRODUCT	DESCRIPTIONS (SEC	TION 1. A. (G	ENERAL)	BID/CONTRACT PROVISIONS					
Product/ Commodity Box Code Pork Sloppy Joe Mix, Fully	Specifications Listed in Priority Order Item Description and Checklist of	Commodity Purchase Code 26-34-41	Packaging and Packing 10 pound, 5 pound, or 8 pound packages packed 40	Minimum Offer Unit Size/Shippin g Unit 40,000 lbs. 1000 cases	Tolerance Section VIII. B. NONE	Shipping/Delivery Period Section II.C.; IV and VIII First Half/Last Half of month	Federal/State Plants Section I.D.3. Federal Plants Only	Competition (See Invitation) Full & Open	Payment Section X Upon Shipment
Cooked/A691 Pork Taco Filling, Fully	Requirements (IDCR) for Cooked Pork Items dated May 2004	26-36-41	lbs. Net weight (18.1 kg) per shipping container 10 pound, 5 pound, or 8 pound packages packed 40	40,000 lbs. 1000 cases	NONE	First Half/Last Half of month	Federal Plants Only	Full & Open	X.B. Upon Shipment
Cooked/A680 Breaded Pork		26-35-41	lbs. Net weight (18.1 kg) per shipping container 10 pound, 5 pound, or 8	40.000 lbs.	NONE	shipping period First Half/Last	Federal Plants Only	Full & Open	X.B.
Patties, Fully Cooked/A692		20-33-41	pound packages packed 40 lbs. Net weight (18.1 kg) per shipping container	1000 cases	NONE	Half of month shipping period	rederal Flants Only	ruii & Opeii	Shipment X.B.
Pork Sausage Patty 1.5 ounce Cooked/A663	IDCR – Issued separately	26-45-40			NONE	First Half/Last Half of month shipping period	Federal Plants Only	Full & Open	Upon Shipment X.B.
Pork Sausage Patty 3.0 ounce Cooked/A662		26-41-40			NONE	First Half/Last Half of month shipping period	Federal Plants Only	Full & Open	Upon Shipment X.B.
Breaded Beef Patties, Fully Cooked/A696	IDCR for Cooked Beef Items – dated April 2004	25-35-41	10 pound, 5 pound, or 8 pound packages packed 40 lbs. Net weight (18.1 kg) per shipping container	40,000 lbs. 1000 cases	NONE	First Half/Last Half of month shipping period	Federal Plants Only	Full & Open	Upon Shipment X.B.
Beef Sloppy Joe Mix, Fully Cooked/A697		25-34-41	10 pound, 5 pound, or 8 pound packages packed 40 lbs. Net weight (18.1 kg) per shipping container	40,000 lbs 1000 cases	NONE	First Half/Last Half of month shipping period	Federal Plants Only	Full & Open	Upon Shipment X.B.
Beef Taco Filling, Fully Cooked/A695		25-36-41	10 pound, 5 pound, or 8 pound packages packed 40 lbs. Net weight (18.1 kg) per shipping container	40,000 lbs. 1000 cases	NONE	First Half/Last Half of month shipping period	Federal Plants Only	Full & Open	Upon Shipment X.B.



Agricultural Marketing Service

Stop 0253-Room 2610-S 1400 Independence Avenue, SW PAGE 2 OF 2 Washington, DC 20250

EXHIBIT A DATED JUNE 2004

CHECKLIST AND REFERENCES TO APPLICABLE BID AND CONTRACT PROVISIONS ANNOUNCEMENT LS-12, FOR FROZEN, COOKED PRODUCTS

PRODUCT DESCRIPTIONS (SECTION 1. A. (GENERAL)					BID/CONTRACT PROVISIONS				
Product/ Commodity Box Code Beef Patties with Vegetable Protein Product (VPP) Homestyle, Fully Cooked/A628	Specifications Listed in Priority Order IDCR for Cooked Beef Items – dated April 2004	Commodity Purchase Code 25-21-40	Packaging and Packing 10 pound, 5 pound, or 8 pound packages packed 40 lbs. Net weight (18.1 kg) per shipping container	Minimum Offer Unit Size/Shippin g Unit 40,000 lbs. 1000 cases	Tolerance Section VIII. B. NONE	Shipping/Delivery Period Section II.C.; IV and VIII First Half/Last Half of month shipping period	Federal/State Plants Section I.D.3. Federal Plants Only	Competition (See Invitation) Full & Open	Payment Section X Upon Shipment X.B.
Beef Crumbles, Fully Cooked/ A698		25-40-10	10 pound, 5 pound, or 8 pound packages packed 40 lbs. Net weight (18.1 kg) per shipping container	40,000 lbs. 1000 cases	NONE	First Half/Last Half of month shipping period	Federal Plants Only	Full & Open	Upon Shipment X.B.

SAMPLE INVITATION

DATE ISSUED: FROZEN, COOKED PRODUCTS, ANNOUNCEMENT LS-12, INVITATION NO. :

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) invites offers pursuant to ANNOUNCEMENT LS-12 to sell frozen, cooked products for use in Federal food and nutrition programs. Purchases will be made on a shipping period basis to destinations indicated below. The product must be shipped to the destinations within the shipping period. Destination quantities are estimates and are subject to adjustment based on offerings, changes in recipient needs, market conditions, and program operations.

All offers must be in the format prescribed in LS-12 and be submitted electronically via the Internet. Offers must be received by **1:00 p.m.**, Central Time, Friday, _____, 2004. Acceptances will be announced by midnight, Friday, ____, 2004. Shipments are to be made between _____ and _____, 2004.

Product purchased under this Invitation will be produced according to the applicable Item Description and Checklist of Requirements.

Offeror must be assigned a Logon ID by USDA to access the site. The internet address is: https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe? Once connected, follow the online procedures. A "HELP" button provides detailed instructions or call 202-720-2650 for assistance.

Inquiries about ANNOUNCEMENT LS-12 or this Invitation should be directed to the Contracting Officer, Livestock and Seed Program; USDA, AMS, Stop 0253-Room 2610-South; 1400 Independence Avenue, SW; Washington, D.C. 20250-0253 Telephone: (202) 720-2650.

ANNOUNCEMENT : LS-12 INVITATION : 100

COMM GROUP : 26 PORK, FROZEN

COMM TYPE : 36 PORK, COOKED TACO FILLING

PACK SIZE : 4/10 LB PACKAGES

ITEM NO. SHIPPING	DESTINATION <u>CITY</u> G PERIOD 09/01/04	STATE - 09/15/04	TRANS R <u>ESTR</u>	QUANTITY (LBS)
001 002 003 004 005	VANDIVER DURAND PALMDALE BELLEVUE KALKASKA	AL GA FL OH MI	TRUCK ONLY	80,000 40,000 40,000 120,000 160,000
006 007	ROSCOE TOLLVILLE	TX AR		36,000 40,000
TOTAL (QUANTITY FOR CO	OMMODITY TYPE		516,000
TOTAL Q	UANTITY FOR IN	VITATION		516,000

CONTRACTING OFFICER

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE LIVESTOCK AND SEED PROGRAM

CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMANCE FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF FROZEN COOKED PRODUCTS

CERTIFICATE OF CONFORMANCE

I cer	tify the following:
(1)	On [shipping date], [Contractor's name] furnished the [applicable cooked product item] called for by Contract Number [] for product shipped under Notice-to-Deliver Number [] in accordance with all applicable requirements.
(2)	The [applicable cooked product item] is of the quality specified and conforms in all respects with domestic product requirements and other the contract requirements, including the Item Description, Checklist of Requirements, and Technical Proposal approved by the Contracting Officer.
(3)	Product quantity shipped is as required on the Notice to Deliver.
Date	:
Sign (Sigi	ature: ned by an officer or representative authorized to sign offers on the current SF-129)
Title	:: :

			210121	1. TYPE 0	F APPLICATION	2. DATE	OMR N	io.: 9000-0002
SOLICITATION	MAILING L	IST AP	PLICATION	X IN	TIAL REVISION	5/26/02		: 10/31/97
OTE: Please comple	te all items o	n this for	m. Insert N/A in	items no	t applicable. See	reverse for instru	ction.	
blic reporting burden f arching existing data mments regarding this R Secretariat (MVR), F	burden estima	ate or any	other aspect of t	this collecti	ion of information, i	sponse, including and reviewing th ncluding suggestion	the time for re e collection of ns for reducing	viewing instructior information. Se this burden, to t
. FEDERAL AGENCY'S					s. NAME	Meat FI No.	7999 TIN	No. 97345658
b. STREET ADDRESS Room 2610-Sor					b. STREET ADDRES	S	c. COUN	
Room 2610-Sor	uth, P.O.		456 . STATE e. ZIP COD		d.CITY Calumet			e. ZIP CODE 67345
Washington		E	C 20090-	6456				1
TYPE OF ORGANIZATION	pront.		0 4 4 4 7 4 7 10 4 1		. ADDRESS TO WHICH . STREET ADDRESS	SOLICITATIONS AR	E TO BE MAILED b. COUN	
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PARTNERSHIP	X UNDE	R THE LAW	INCORPORATED VS OF THE STATE OF	F: C	. CITY		d. STATI	e. ZIP CODE
				CERS, O	WNERS, OR PAR	TNERS		
PRESIDENT Seorge Coates	•		. VICE PRESIDENT Martha Jers:		4	Robert Ols	son	
TREASURER alter Schnaak		1-	. OWNERS OR PART Shareholders		e Corporation			·
	NAME		8. AFFIL	LIATES O	F APPLICANT LOCATION		NATURE	OF AFFILIATION
roadview Foods		XXXXXX	XXXX 7893 D	olton A	ve., Highlan	d, IL 67347	Parent (
	FI No	321						
9. PER	SONS AUTI	HORIZED	TO SIGN OFFER	RS AND	CONTRACTS IN	YOURNAME (In		ent) IONE NUMBER
	NAME			•	OFFICIAL CAPACITY		AREA CODE	NUMBER
dgar Kauffman				Manager			611	796-1992
ndrew Terrill			Produc	tion Ma	anager	······································	611	796-1992
	SUPPLIES, AND modity Pork Taco M Pork Sloppy	Curr ix	ent Weekly Prod 500,000		MAKE AN OFFER (Sa ditional Capacit 250,000 250,000	y % availah	ele for USDA 40% 40%	Contracts
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, TYPE OF OWNERSHIP	(See definitions o	NESS n reverse/	13. TYPE OF BUSIN		efinitions on reverse)	\$ 23, 430,0		
(Not applicable for other		esses/ MAN-	MANUFACTU OR PRODUCE	irier Er	CONCERN	ı	SURPLUS DEALER	•
DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS	D OWN		SERVICE ESTABLISHM	ENT	RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT)		
. DUNS NO. (If available)	02-787396				15. HOW LONG IN P	ESENT BUSINESS?		
16. F	LOORSPAC	E(Square	Feet/Mf)		oo years	17. NET \	VORTH	
MANUFACTURING		b. WARE	HOUSE		a. DATE	2001	b. AMOUNT	
44,000	40 0500		00 * See Bel		December 31,		\$7,537,6	62.89
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KEY PERSONNEL			DOIN INCHITY OF					
PLANT ONLY ne informationsupple nnection with the gency of the Fede gency thereof.	applicant as rai Governm	a princip ent from	pal or officer, so making offers	far as is	known, is now o	lebarred or othe	rwise declare ces to the G	ed ineligible by a overnment or a
	THE PROPERTY OF	SV:N /Tyme	or print!		20. SIGNATURE		121	. DATE SIGNED
a. NAME OF PERSON A George Coates b. Title OF PERSON A					١.,	e Coat		

Robertson Bonded Warehouse 834 Bellwood Avenue Irondale, IL 59571 STANDAND FURM 129 (REV. 12-96) Prescribed by GSA - FAR (48 CFR) 53.214(e)

INSTRUCTIONS

Persons or concerns wishing to be added to a particular agency's bidder's mailing list for supplies or services shall file this properly completed Solicitation Mailing List Application, together with such other lists as may be attached to this application form, with each procurement office of the Federal agency with which they desire to do business. If a Federal agency has attached a Supplemental Commodity list with instructions, complete the application as instructed. Otherwise, identify in Item 10 the equipment, supplies, and/or services on which you desire to bid. (Provide Federal Supply Class or Standard Industrial Classification codes, if available.) The application shall be submitted and signed by the principal as distinguished from an agent, however constituted.

After placement on the bidder's mailing list of an agency, your failure to respond (submission of bid, or notice in writing, that you are unable to bid on that particular transaction but wish to remain on the active bidder's mailing list for that particular item) to solicitations will be understood by the agency to indicate lack of interest and concurrence in the removal of your name from the purchasing activity's solicitation mailing for items concerned.

SIZE OF BUSINESS DEFINITIONS (See Item 11A.)

- a. Small business concern A small business concern for the purpose of Government procurement is a concern, including its affiliates, which is independently owned and operated, is not dominant in the field of operation in which it is competing for Government contracts, and can further qualify under the criteria concerning number of employees, average annual receipts, or the other criteria, as prescribed by the Small Business Administration. (See Code of Federal Regulations, Title 13, Part 121, as amended, which contains detailed industry definitions and related procedures.)
- b. Affiliates Business concerns are affiliates of each other when either directly or indirectly (i) one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or (ii) a third party controls or has the power to control both. In determining whether concerns are independently owned and operated and whether or not affiliation exists, consideration is given to all appropriate factors including common ownership, common management, and contractual relationship. (See Items 8 and 11A.)
- c. Number of employees (Item 118) In connection with the determination of small business status, "number of employees" means the average employment of any concern, including the employees of its domestic and foreign affiliates, based on the number of persons employed on a full-time, part-time, temporary or other basis during each of the pay periods of the preceding 12 months. If a concern has noteen in existence for 12 months, "number of employees" means the average employment of such concern and its affiliates during the period that such concern has been in existence based on the number of persons employed during each of the pay periods of the period that such concern has been in business.

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP DEFINITIONS (See Item 12.)

- a. "Disadvantaged business concern" means any business concern (1) which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals; or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals; and (2) whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of such individuals.
- b. "Women-owned business" means a business that is at least 51 percent owned by a woman or women who are U.S. citizens and who also control and operate the business.

TYPE OF BUSINESS DEFINITIONS (See Item 13.)

- a. "Manufacturer or producer" means a person (or concern) owning, operating, or maintaining a store, warehouse, or other establishment that produces, on the premises, the materials, supplies, articles or equipment of the general character of those listed in Item 10, or in the Federal Agency's Supplemental Commodity List, if attached.
- b. "Service establishment" means a concern (or person) which owns, operates, or maintains any type of business which is principally engaged in the furnishing of nonpersonal services, such as (but not limited to) repairing, cleaning, redecorating, or rental of personal property, including the furnishing of necessary repair parts or other supplies as a part of the services performed.

 COMMERCE BUSINESS DAILY - The Commerce Business Daily, published by the Department of Commerce, contains information concerning proposed procurements, sales, and contract awards, For further information concerning this publication, contact your local Commerce Field Office.

STANDARD FORM 129 (REV. 12-96) BACK

SAMPLE OFFER ELECTRONICALLY SUBMITTED

Submitted at: 8/13/2004 - 10:19:19 am Central Time

JOHN JONES PACKING CO. 22 MAIN STREET BERWYN, ME 55507

LS-12/100, FROZEN, COOKED PORK

13-12/100	LS-12/100, FROZEN, COOKED FORK								
Authorize	Authorized Changes and Comments								
Date	Date Time USDA ID Comments								
Plant 01-J	ohn Jones Pac	cking Co., 22 Main Stree	t, Berwyn, ME	•					
Shipping l	<u>Point 01-Jones</u>	Meat Packing, 22 Main	Street, Berwyn, ME						
PORK,	COOKED T	TACO FILLING							
Line	Pack Size	Destination	Delivery Period	Est LBS	Price/LBS	Tran			
Item			v			Mode			
001	4/10 lb.	VANDIVER, AL	09/01/2004 -	80,000	1.3000	Truck			
	packages	·	09/15/2004	·					
002	4/10 lb.	DURAND, GA	09/01/2004 -	40,000	1.2500	Truck			
	packages	·	09/15/2004	·					
003	4/10 lb.	PALMDALE, FL	09/01/2004 -	40,000	1.2500	Truck			
	packages		09/15/2004						

Constraints									
Const	Max Qty	Plant Location	Shipping Period		Product				
# 1	3	01-John Jones Packing	09/01/2004 - 09/15/2004	Pork	Cooked Taco Filling				
Certificat		or John Johns Lacking	TOTK,	Cooked Taco I IIIIig					
		pany is designated as: SMALI	L BUSINESS						
		Question			Answer				
		-							
of LS-12, Description by the Con	abmitting the Appendix 1 on and Checontracting Of d 4 (Both be	red F	HAS DOES						
the Contra	ual Represe acting Offic nm/dd/yyyy	er are current, accurate, and co	arranties (Appendix 1) submitted omplete. Submitted to Contract	ed to ing 7	7/30/2004				
		S been amended, enter date a	mended or N/A.	N	N/A				
03) Offerd	or certifies t f this offer.	hat the SF-129 on file with the	Contracting Officer is accurate		OOES				
04) All pr Later Tha	oduct requir n Date prior	red under existing USDA cont to this bid opening HAS beer	ract(s) or subcontract(s) with a ladelivered.	Not N	NO EXISTING CONTRACTS				
05) By su applicable production	bmitting thing the Item Description process or acting Office	ne I	DOES						
06) Show be an auth	name, title, orized com	fax number, and phone numb pany representative).	er of person submitting bid (mu	F	Edgar Kaufmann, President Fax 705-347-8333 Phone 705-347-1715				

High Bid Price: 0.6534 Line Item: 001 Low Bid Price: 0.5987 Line Item: 003 Sum of Bid Prices: 1.8913

SAMPLE OFFER WIRE OR LETTER

The following example shows how offer wires or letters may be submitted giving all essential details in the briefest possible manner. Basic to this procedure is a number identification with each line item of information required in the offer (See format in Section II E of Announcement LS-12)

NOTE: FAX bids must be authorized by the Contracting Officer prior to submission in the event of a USDA system failure or company's ISP is unavailable.

Address to: Contracting Officer, Livestock and Seed Program

USDA, AMS, Room 2610-South Agricultural Marketing Service Post Office Box 96456 Washington, D.C. 20250 Telephone: 202-720-2650

Section 1--General

1. John Jones Packing Company 705-555-1715 22 Main Street

(P.O. Box 123) Encinitas, CA 92379

2. LS-12/100

3. Plant Shipping Point
Jone's Meat Company Jones Meat Packers
224 Main Street 224 Main Street
Berwyn, Maine 55507 Berwyn, Maine 55501

Telephone 705-342-1715

Section 2--Offer Form

ALTERNATE FORMAT

(1) Vandiver, AL, \$1.2500 per lb. (2) Durand, GA, \$1.3000 per lb. (3) Palmdale, FL, \$1.3000 per lb. (3) \$1.3000 per lb.

Section 3--Constraints

Maximum to be awarded Shipping Period 3 offer units, 120,000 pounds (10/4 lb.packages) for shipping between _____ and ____

Section 4--Certifications

Small Business

- 1. HAS DOES
- 2. (a) 05/30/04 (date Appendix 1 was signed by Offeror)
 - (b) N/A
- 3. DOES
- 4. NO EXISTING CONTRACTS
- 5. DOES
- 6. Edgar Kauffman, Sales Mgr, FAX 705-347-8333, TEL. 705-347-1715 (SIGNATURE REQUIRED)

PLANNED PURCHASE SCHEDULE 2004-05

INV. NO.	COMMODITY TYPE	BID OPENING	AWARD DATE (NLT)	PRODUCTION	SHIPPING PERIOD
001	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		07/02	5 WEEKS	08/01-15
002	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		07/16	5 WEEKS	08/16-31
003	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		07/30	5 WEEKS	09/01-15
004	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		08/13	5 WEEKS	09/16-30
005	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		08/27	5 WEEKS	10/01-15
006	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		09/10	5 WEEKS	10/16-31
007	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		09/24	5 WEEKS	11/01-15
008	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		10/08	5 WEEKS	11/16-31
009	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		10/22	6 WEEKS	12/1-15
010	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		11/05	6 WEEKS	12/16-31
011	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		11/19	6 WEEKS	01/01-15/05
012	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		12/10	6 WEEKS	01/16-31/05
013	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		12/23 (Thursday)	6 WEEKS	02/01-15
014	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation	01/07/05	01/14/05	5 WEEKS	02/16-28
015	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation		01/28	5 WEEKS	03/01-15
016	Cooked Items-Specified in Invitation	02/04	02/11	5 WEEKS	03/16-31

Company Name Page X of Y

(Frozen, Cooked Products)

[Company Name] [Company Address]

Technical Proposal for: [Announcement Number] and [Specification]

Table of Contents (all pages and attachments must be number and identified—any attachments must be identified and referenced in the Technical Proposal)

The technical proposal should include all phases of production that meets or exceeds the requirements stated in the specification to produce complying product.

- I. ITEM DESCRIPTION Please provide a brief description of the product that will be addressed in the technical proposal.
- II. CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS Please provide a brief description of the planning, production steps (do), check and corrective/preventive (act) measures that the company will do to assure compliance with the checklist of requirements section of the specification.
 - A. MATERIALS Please provide a brief description of the planning, production steps (do), check and corrective/preventive (act) measures that the company will do to assure compliance with the material section of the specification.

Contractors are responsible for providing sufficient product traceability and must have records to verify the source of raw materials used in each lot of product.

- **1.** BEEF OR PORK (plan, do, check, act)
 - a. Excellent Condition
 - **b.** Domestic Origin
 - **C.** Non-ambulatory beef or pork
 - **d.** Mechanically separated
- **2.** NON-MEAT INGREDIENTS (plan, do, check, act)
- **3.** SHAPE (PATTIES) (plan, do, check, act)
- **4.** SERVING SIZE (plan, do, check, act)
- **5.** PRODUCT COOKING (plan, do, check, act)
- **6.** PRODUCT TEMPERATURE (plan, do, check, act)
- **7.** COOKING INSTRUCTIONS (plan, do, check, act)
- **8.** FINISHED PRODUCT FAT AND SODIUM LIMITATIONS (plan, do, check, act)
- **9.** METAL DETECTION (plan, do, check, act)
- **10.** MICROBIAL REQUIREMENTS (plan, do, check, act)

- **B.** PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY Please provide a brief description of the planning, production steps (do), check and corrective/preventive (act) measures that the company will do to assure compliance with the preparation for delivery section of the specification.
 - 1. PACKAGING AND PACKING-(plan, do, check, act)
 - 2. LABELING (plan, do, check, act)
 - 3. PALLETIZED UNIT LOADS (plan, do, check, act)
 - 4. TRACEABILITY AND SHIPMENT (plan, do, check, act)
- **C.** WARRANTY AND COMPLAINT RESOLUTION Please provide a brief description of the planning, production steps (do), check and corrective/preventive (act) measures that the company will do to assure compliance with the warranty and complaint resolution section of the specification.

NOTE: In preparing Offeror's technical proposal please follow the outline format for the applicable IDCR that the company is submitting.

Attachments or Appendixes

Please attach all referenced documents with the applicable document name and reference number.



Agricultural Marketing Service Stop 0253 Room 2610 South 1400 Independence Avenue SW Washington, DC 20250-0253

AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE FOOD PURCHASE INFORMATION ON THE INTERNET

Suppliers and Recipients of Food Products purchased by the Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS), an agency in the Marketing and Regulatory mission area, can access information on purchases and offers via the Internet.

FOR QUICK ACCESS TYPE THE ADDRESS DESIRED IN THE LOCATION BOX:

USDA HOME PAGE:

http://www.usda.gov/

AMS HOME PAGE:

http://www.ams.usda.gov/

AMS COMMODITY PROCUREMENT HOME PAGE:

http://www.ams.usda.gov/cp

AMS, LS COMMODITY PROCUREMENT HOME PAGE

http://www.ams.usda.gov/lscp

ITEM DESCRIPTION AND CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS FOR COOKED PORK ITEMS MAY 2004



STDZ, RM 2607 5/13/04

I. ITEM DESCRIPTION

Item -

- (1) Pork Taco Filling, Fully Cooked This item consists of ground pork cooked in lightly seasoned ingredients for use in a variety of applications, including taco fillings, burritos, enchiladas and similar items.
- (2) Pork Sloppy Joe Mix, Fully Cooked This item consists of ground pork cooked in seasoned tomato product for use in a variety of applications, including sandwich filling and similar items.
- (3) <u>Breaded Pork Patties, Fully Cooked</u> This item consists of ground pork that is formed into round or oval patties, breaded and IQF for use as sandwiches or a stand-alone item.

Meat Component – Pork will comprise at least 75% of the raw formula.

Non-Meat Component – Non-meat components will comprise no more than 25% of the raw

formula.

Fat – Fat will not exceed 15 grams per 100 gram serving.

Sodium – The sodium content will not exceed 700 milligrams per 100 gram

serving.

Packing – Four (4) 10-pound, five (5) 8-pound, or eight (8) 5-pound primary

containers (packages) will be packed in a 40-pound (net weight)

shipping container.

Delivery Unit – Each delivery unit will consist of 1000 cases and 40,000 pounds.

Child Nutrition

(CN) Label -

A CN label is required on all primary containers.

II. CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS

All items must be produced in accordance with Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) regulations and the checklist of requirements.

A. MATERIALS

The contractor's technical proposal must include procedures to address conformance with the following material requirements.

1. MEAT COMPONENT

Pork will be the only meat component allowed.

- a) Domestic Origin of Meat Component All hogs will originate from U.S. produced livestock.
- b) Harvesting (Slaughtering) Hogs will be harvested in facilities that will comply with the following requirements:
 - (1) Humane Handling All hogs will be humanely handled in accordance with all applicable FSIS regulations, directives, and notices.
 - (2) Non-Ambulatory Disabled Hogs Meat from carcasses of non-ambulatory disabled livestock will not be included in USDA purchased cooked pork items.

The domestic origin and harvesting requirements will be verified in accordance with ARC 1010 Procedure, USDA Supplier Eligibility Programs (http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/arc/dovp.htm).

- c) Fabrication Boneless meat will comply with the following requirements:
 - (1) Handling All boneless pork must be maintained in excellent condition. The contractor's technical proposal shall include detailed production scheduling that addresses time and temperature controls necessary to maintain excellent condition of the boneless pork. Frozen boneless pork may be used provided it is processed into the final product within 60 days from the date of pack.
 - (2) Objectionable Materials Meat shall be free of skin, lymph glands, organ tissue, spinal cord, and foreign materials.
 - (3) Mechanical Separation Meat that is mechanically separated from bone with automatic deboning systems, advanced lean (meat) recovery (AMR) systems, or powered knives will not be allowed.

2. NON-MEAT COMPONENTS

- a) Domestic Origin of Non-Meat Component Significant ingredients (more than 1 percent) will be derived from U.S. produced products.
- Seasoning and Ingredient Seasonings and other ingredients will be used to produce products with mild flavor profiles suitable for institutional feeding systems.
- c) Monosodium Glutamate (MSG) MSG is not allowed.
- d) Batter/Breading For Patties, only Enriched flour must be the primary ingredient, by weight, in the batter/breading combination.

B. PROCESSING

1. BONE COLLECTOR / EXTRUDER SYSTEM

A bone collector/extruder system must be in operation to remove skin, bone, cartilage, and heavy connective tissue during the final grind.

2. PATTIES

- a) Round or Oval Shape Patties will be round or oval shape.
- b) Raw Weight The raw weight of the patties must be declared. The raw weights will be charted on control charts featuring average weight and range.
- c) IQF Patties will be IQF so the individual pieces do not stick together after they are packaged and packed.
- d) Pink Appearance Patties with pink appearance (internal) will not be allowed.

3. SERVING SIZE

The serving size will be targeted to meet the 2.0 ounces meat/meat alternative "as served" requirement for Child Nutrition (CN) Programs and also to meet the CN labeling requirement as required on the package.

4. COOKING TEMPERATURE

All products will be fully cooked in accordance with FSIS regulations.

5. METAL DETECTION

All products will be free of metal contaminants. Detection of stainless steel, ferrous, and non-ferrous (e.g., lead, copper, and aluminum) metals is required. The equipment, location, detection procedure, sensitivity levels, frequency of equipment validation, and corrective action procedures shall be described.

B. FINISHED PRODUCT LIMITATIONS

1. FAT

The fat content of the finished product will not exceed 15 percent (Percent Fat = (Total Fat \div Serving Size) x 100). The declared fat content will be stated on the nutrition facts panel on each can label according to FSIS nutritional labeling regulations (no more than 15 g per 100 g serving).

2. SODIUM

Sodium level will not exceed 700 mg per 100 g serving.

3. MICROBIAL

Contractor will have documented plan to comply with the latest FSIS Salmonella and Listeria monocytogenes requirements for ready-to-eat foods.

C. COOKING INSTRUCTIONS

Cooking instructions for the end-user will be provided in the offeror's technical proposal. The pork patties will be prepared so that the end-user may bake them in a conventional or convection type oven.

D. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY

1. PACKAGING AND PACKING

 a) Packaging – Patties will be either vacuum packaged or packed in a sealed (tamper proof) package. Pork taco fillings and sloppy joe mix will be packaged within "cook-n-ship bags" high oxygen and high moisture barrier casings. b) Packing – Four (4) 10-pound, five (5) 8-pound, or eight (8) 5-pound primary containers (packages) will be packed in a 40-pound (net weight) shipping container.

2. LABELING

The shipping containers will be in compliance with the National Motor Freight Classification, or the Uniform Freight Classification, as applicable. Both primary and shipping containers will be labeled to include all information required by FSIS regulations.

- a) Container Style Only one size and style of primary (bags) and shipping containers may be offered in an individual shipping unit.
- b) Primary Container Labels Primary container labels will contain the following information:
 - (1) "Best-If-Used-By" Date.
 - (2) Nutrition Facts Panel (based on actual nutritional analysis of the product).
 - (3) Traceability Code (traceable to production lot and date).
 - (4) CN Label.
- Shipping Container Labels Shipping container labels will contain the following information:
 - (1) USDA Shield (at least 2 inches high and appearing on the top of the container or on the principle display panel).



- (2) Contract Number.
- (3) Traceability Code (traceable to production lot and date).
- (4) Nutrition Facts Panel (based on actual nutritional analysis of the product).
- (5) Product Code (the appropriate product codes listed in the table below).

Product Code					
Item	Code				
Pork Taco Filling, Fully Cooked	A680				
Breaded Pork Patties, Fully Cooked	A692				
Pork Sloppy Joe Mix, Fully Cooked	A691				

All labeling illustrations must be provided.

3. CLOSURE

Shipping containers will be closed by strapping, taping or gluing.

4. PALLETIZED UNIT LOADS

Shipping containers will be unitized and delivered on pallets. Pallet loads will be stacked in a manner that minimizes the overhang of the shipping containers over the edges of the pallets. A sufficient number of principle shipping container display panels will be exposed to facilitate examinations on each pallet.

- a) Pallet Condition Only new or well-maintained pallets will be allowed.
- b) Pallet Size Pallets will be flush, 48 inches long by 40 inches wide, stringer or block design, partial or full four-way entry, nonreversible, and suitable for use in the shipment of approximately 2,000 pounds of food product.
- c) Plastic Stretch-Wrap The shipping containers will be held firmly in place by applying plastic stretch-wrap as tightly as possible around all of the tiers stacked on the pallet.

E. PRODUCT ASSURANCE

1. DELIVERY UNIT

Each delivery unit will consist of 1,000 cases and 40,000 pounds.

2. DELIVERED PRODUCT

- a) Temperature All products will not exceed 0° F at the time of shipment and delivery.
- b) Sealing All products must be delivered to AMS destinations under seal.

3. WARRANTY AND COMPLAINT RESOLUTION

- a) Warranty The contractor will warrant that the product complies with all specification requirements, technical proposal declarations, and provisions set forth in this announcement.
- b) Complaint Resolution Customer complaint resolution procedures will be included in the technical proposal. These procedures will include: a point of contact, investigation steps, intent to cooperate with AMS, and product replacement or monetary compensation. The procedures will be used to resolve product complaints from recipient agencies or AMS.

4. NON-CONFORMING PRODUCT

The contractor will ensure that product which does not conform to product requirements is identified and controlled to prevent unintended use or delivery. The contractor must have documented procedures that assure nonconforming product identification, segregation, and disposition in order to prevent misuse and that nonconforming product is not delivered to USDA.

ITEM DESCRIPTION AND CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS FOR COOKED BEEF ITEMS APRIL 2004



USDA, AMS, LS, STDZ/RM 2607-S 4/22/04

I. ITEM DESCRIPTION

Item -

- (1) Beef Patties with VPP, Homestyle, Fully Cooked This item consists of ground beef with vegetable protein product (VPP) with a handmade appearance and Individually Quick Frozen (IQF) for use as sandwiches or a stand-alone item.
- (2) Beef Taco Filling, Fully Cooked This item consists of ground beef cooked in lightly seasoned ingredients for use in a variety of applications, including taco fillings, burritos, enchiladas and similar items.
- (3) <u>Beef Sloppy Joe Mix, Fully Cooked</u> This item consists of ground beef cooked in seasoned tomato product for use in a variety of applications, including sandwich fillings and similar items.
- (4) <u>Breaded Beef Patties, Fully Cooked</u> This item consists of ground beef that is formed into round or oval patties, breaded and IQF for use as sandwiches or a stand-alone item.
- (5) <u>Beef Crumbles, Fully Cooked</u> This item consists of ground beef with vegetable protein product (VPP) that is lightly seasoned to a crumble size of ¼ inch maximum for use in a variety of applications such as chili, sloppy joe, tacos and spaghetti sauce, pizza, lasagna, casseroles, pasta dishes, and any recipe that calls for ground beef.

Meat Component – Beef will comprise of at least 75% of the raw formula.

Non-Meat Component – Non-meat components will comprise no more than 25% of the raw

formula.

Fat – Fat will not exceed 15 grams per 100 gram serving.

Sodium – The sodium content will not exceed 700 milligrams per 100 gram

serving.

Packing – Four (4) 10-pound, five (5) 8-pound, or eight (8) 5-pound primary

containers (packages) will be packed in a 40-pound (net weight)

shipping container.

Delivery Unit – Each delivery unit will consist of 1000 cases and 40,000 pounds.

Child Nutrition A CN label is required on all primary containers.

(CN) Label –

II. CHECKLIST OF REQUIREMENTS

All items must be produced in accordance with Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) regulations and the checklist of requirements.

A. MATERIALS

The contractor's technical proposal must include procedures to address conformance with the following material requirements.

1. MEAT COMPONENT

Beef will be the only meat component allowed.

- a) Domestic Origin of Meat Component All cattle will originate from U.S. produced livestock.
- b) Harvesting (Slaughtering) Cattle will be harvested in facilities that comply with the following requirements:
 - (1) Humane Handling All cattle will be humanely handled in accordance with all applicable FSIS regulations, directives, and notices.
 - (2) Non-Ambulatory Disabled Cattle Meat from carcasses of non-ambulatory disabled livestock will not be included in USDA purchased cooked beef items.
 - (3) Spinal Cord Removal All spinal cord tissue will be removed during the harvesting process.

The domestic origin and harvesting requirements will be verified in accordance with ARC 1010 Procedure, USDA Supplier Eligibility Programs (http://www.ams.usda.gov/lsg/arc/dovp.htm).

- c) Boneless Beef Boneless beef must comply with the following requirements:
 - (1) Handling All boneless beef must be maintained in excellent condition. The contractor's technical proposal shall include detailed production scheduling that addresses time and temperature controls necessary to maintain excellent condition of the boneless beef. Frozen boneless beef may be used provided it is processed into the final product within 60 days from the date of pack.
 - (2) Objectionable Materials Beef shall be free of lymph glands, organ tissue, and foreign materials.
- d) E. coli O157:H7 Boneless and ground beef previously tested and found positive for E. coli O157:H7 will not be allowed.
- e) Mechanical Separation Beef that is mechanically separated from bone with automatic deboning systems, advanced lean (meat) recovery (AMR) systems, or powered knives will not be allowed.
- f) Lean Finely Textured Beef (LFTB) LFTB may be used at a rate not to exceed 15% of the meat component. However, LFTB is not allowed in crumbles.

2. NON-MEAT COMPONENTS

- a) Domestic Origin of Non-Meat Component Significant ingredients (more than 1 percent) will be derived from U.S. produced products.
- b) Seasoning and Ingredient Seasonings and other ingredients will be used to produce products with mild flavor profiles suitable for institutional feeding systems. For crumbles and patties, seasonings and other ingredients will comprise no more than 2% of the raw formula.
- c) Monosodium Glutamate (MSG) MSG is not allowed.
- d) Vegetable Protein Product (VPP) Beef Patties with VPP, Homestyle, Fully Cooked and Beef Crumbles, Fully Cooked must contain VPP in the raw formula that meets the following requirements:
 - (1) The source of the VPP will be soy and will be hydrated to yield no less than 18% protein (as is basis).
 - (2) Type and Texture The physical characteristics of VPP, in the dry form, must be either granular or textured. The types of soy that may be used are soy concentrate or isolate (65% and 85% as is basis).
- e) Batter / Breading For Breaded Beef Patties, Only Enriched flour must be the primary ingredient, by weight, in the batter/breading combination.

B. PROCESSING

1. BONE COLLECTOR / EXTRUDER SYSTEM

A bone collector/extruder system must be in operation to remove bone, cartilage, and heavy connective tissue during the final grind.

2. CRUMBLES

- a) Crumble Size The size of the crumbles will be no larger than ¼ inch.
- b) IQF Crumbles will be IQF in a manner that will prevent the crumbles from sticking together after freezing.

3. PATTIES

- a) Beef Patties with VPP, Homestyle, Fully Cooked, Only Patties must comply with the following:
 - (1) Handmade Appearance Patties will have a "handmade" appearance.
 - (2) Grill Marks At least one side of the patties will have grill (char) marks.
- b) Breaded Beef Patties, Fully Cooked, Only Patties will have a round or oval shape.
- c) Raw Weight The raw weight of the patties must be declared. The raw weights will be charted on control charts featuring average weight and range.

- d) IQF Patties will be IQF so the individual pieces do not stick together after they are packaged and packed.
- e) Pink Appearance Patties with pink appearance (internal or external) will not be allowed.

4. SERVING SIZE

The serving size will be targeted to meet the 2.0 ounces meat/meat alternative "as served" requirement for Child Nutrition (CN) Programs and also to meet the CN labeling requirement as required on the package.

5. COOKING TEMPERATURE

All products will be fully cooked in accordance with FSIS regulations.

6. METAL DETECTION

All products will be free of metal contaminants. Detection of stainless steel, ferrous, and non-ferrous (e.g., lead, copper, and aluminum) metals is required. The contractor's technical proposal must identify and describe the equipment, location, detection procedure, sensitivity levels, frequency of equipment validation, and corrective action procedures.

C. FINISHED PRODUCT LIMITATIONS

1. FAT

The fat content of the finished product will not exceed 15 percent (Percent Fat = (Total Fat ÷ Serving Size) x 100). The declared fat content (as packaged) will be stated on the nutrition facts panel on each container label according to FSIS nutritional labeling regulations (no more than 15 g per 100 g serving)

2. SODIUM

The sodium content will not exceed 700 mg per 100 g serving.

3. MICROBIAL

The contractor will have a documented plan to comply with the current FSIS Salmonella and Listeria monocytogenes requirements for ready-to-eat foods.

D. COOKING INSTRUCTIONS

Cooking instructions for the end-user will be provided in the offeror's technical proposal. The beef patties will be prepared so that the end-user may bake them in a conventional or convection type oven.

E. PREPARATION FOR DELIVERY

1. PACKAGING AND PACKING

 a) Packaging – All products will be vacuum packaged or packed in a sealed (tamper proof) package. In addition, beef taco fillings and sloppy joe mix will be packaged in "cook-n-ship bags". b) Packing – Four (4) 10-pound, five (5) 8-pound, or eight (8) 5-pound primary containers (packages) will be packed in a 40-pound (net weight) shipping container.

2. LABELING

The shipping containers will be in compliance with the National Motor Freight Classification, or the Uniform Freight Classification, as applicable. Both primary and shipping containers will be labeled to include all information required by FSIS regulations.

- a) Container Style Only one size and style of primary (bags) and shipping containers may be offered in an individual shipping unit.
- b) Primary Container Labels Primary container labels will contain the following information:
 - (1) "Best-If-Used-By" Date.
 - (2) Nutrition Facts (based on actual nutritional analysis of the product).
 - (3) Traceability Code (traceable to production lot and date).
 - (4) CN Label.
- Shipping Container Labels Shipping container labels will contain the following information:
 - (1) USDA Shield (at least 2 inches high and appearing on the top of the container or on the principle display panel).



- (2) Contract Number.
- (3) Traceability Code (traceable to production lot and date).
- (4) Nutrition Facts (based on actual nutritional analysis of the product).
- (5) Product Code (the appropriate product codes listed in the table below).

Product Code									
Item	Code								
Beef Patties with VPP, Homestyle, Fully Cooked	A628								
Beef Taco Filling, Fully Cooked	A695								
Breaded Beef Patties, Fully Cooked	A696								
Beef Sloppy Joe Mix, Fully Cooked	A697								
Beef Crumbles, Fully Cooked	A698								

All labeling illustrations must be provided.

3. CLOSURE

Shipping containers will be closed by strapping, taping or gluing.

4. PALLETIZED UNIT LOADS

Shipping containers will be unitized and delivered on pallets. Pallet loads will be stacked in a manner that minimizes the overhang of the shipping containers over the edges of the pallets. A sufficient number of principle shipping container display panels will be exposed to facilitate examinations on each pallet.

- a) Pallet Condition Only new or well-maintained pallets will be allowed.
- b) Pallet Size Pallets will be flush, 48 inches long by 40 inches wide, stringer or block design, partial or full four-way entry, nonreversible, and suitable for use in the shipment of approximately 2,000 pounds of food product.
- c) Plastic Stretch-Wrap The shipping containers will be held firmly in place by applying plastic stretch-wrap as tightly as possible around all of the tiers stacked on the pallet.

F. PRODUCT ASSURANCE

1. DELIVERY UNIT

Each delivery unit will consist of 1,000 cases and 40,000 pounds.

2. DELIVERED PRODUCT

- a) Temperature All products will not exceed 0° F at the time of shipment and delivery.
- b) Sealing All products must be delivered to AMS destinations under seal.

3. WARRANTY AND COMPLAINT RESOLUTION

- a) Warranty The contractor will warrant that the product complies with all specification requirements, technical proposal declarations, and provisions set forth in the program announcement.
- b) Complaint Resolution Customer complaint resolution procedures will be included in the technical proposal. These procedures will include: a point of contact, investigation steps, intent to cooperate with AMS, and product replacement or monetary compensation. The procedures will be used to resolve product complaints from recipient agencies or AMS.

4. NON-CONFORMING PRODUCT

The contractor must have documented procedures that assure nonconforming product identification, segregation, and disposition in order to prevent misuse and that nonconforming product is not delivered to USDA. The contractor will ensure that product which does not conform to product requirements is identified and controlled to prevent unintended use or delivery.

Browser Requirements For DEBES

Netscape 4.07 or above Internet Explorer 5.0 or above

The browser must be capable of handling 128 bit encryption. To determine this:

In IE, go to **Help/About Internet Explorer.** The display will show:

Cipher Strength: 128-bit

If it does not, you will need to download a new version of the browser from Microsoft at http://www.microsoft.com.

In Netscape, go to **Help/About Communicator.** The display will show:

This version supports U.S. security with RSA Public Key Cryptography, MD2, MD5, RC2-CBC, RC4, DES-CBC, DES-EDE3-CBC.

If it does not, you can download a new version of the browser from Netscape at http://home.netscape.com/download/index.html?cp=djucc4. Choose the 128 bit Strong Encryption* version for your download.

The **Production** site URL address is:

https://pcsd.usda.gov:3077/mdbc1000.exe?

The **Vendor Practice** site URL address is:

https://pcsd.usda.gov:3050/mdbc1000.exe?

Proxy Servers

Most connection problems are the result of improper browser version, not using 128 bit encryption, and connecting through your corporate proxy server. The proxy server must be set up to allow HTTPS protocol through the appropriate port; Vendor Practice is port 3050 and Production is port 3077.

LIVESTOCK AND SEED PROGRAM VENDOR REQUEST FOR LOGON IDENTIFICATION (ID) AND PASSWORD DOMESTIC ELECTRONIC BID ENTRY SYSTEM (DEBES)

COMPANY	INFORMAT	TION:	
COMPANY	NAME		
Street Add	ress		
City	State	Zip Code	
Person to r	eceive Vendo	r ID and passwor	d
Method to	receive Vend	or ID and passwo	rd: (Complete one)
Telephone:			
Fax:			
E-Mail:			
Assign 5-8	digit alpha/nı	umeric personal i	dentification number (PIN) for company:
(This code v	will be used as	verification by US	SDA when assigning or resetting a password)
NAME AN	D TITLE OF	PERSON REQU	ESTING LOGON ID:
(Must be a	uthorized on	SF-129 to sign bid	ls)
Name			_Title
Signature			_ Date
TO BE CON	MPLETED B	Y USDA:	
VENDOR 1	LOGON ID:		PASSWORD:
("A" and 6	digits)		(must be changed at first DEBES logon):
(12 0220 0	g-v =)		(
Notified:			Date:
	Company Re	epresentative)	Date
	-		
USDA Mar	keting Specia	alist:	Date:

PLEASE FAX TO: Contracting Officer, Commodity Procurement Branch, LSP Programs (202) 720-9538

ACH VENDOR/MISCELLANEOUS PAYMENT ENROLLMENT FORM

OMB No. 1510-0056

Expiration Date 01/31/2000

This form is used for Automated Clearing House (ACH) payments with an addendum record that contains paymentrelated information processed through the Vendor Express Program. Recipients of these payments should bring this information to the attention of their financial institution when presenting this form for completion.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

The following information is provided to comply with the Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579). All information collected on this form is required under the provisions of 31 U.S.C. 3322 and 31 CFR 210. This information will be used by the Treasury Department to transmit payment data, by electronic means to vendor's financial institution. Failure to provide the requested information may delay or prevent the receipt of payments through the Automated Clearing House Payment System.

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	AGENCY INFORM	ATION		
FEDERAL PROGRAM AGENCY:				
United States	Department of Agriculture	- Commodity Cre	dit Corpo	ration
AGENCY IDENTIFIER:	AGENCY LOCATION CODE (ALC):	ACH FORMAT:		COMPLETE THIS
USDA-FSA-KCMO	0000-4992-2	x CCD+	СТХ	СТР
ADDRESS:				
	Attn: ACH Disbur	raementa		
	P. O. Box 419			
	Kansas City, Missouri	64141-6205		
CONTACT PERSON NAME:			TELEPHONE I	NUMBER:
	Bob Glenn		(816)	926-6988
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:	FAX Number: (816)	823-1364		
	PAYEE/COMPANY INF			
NAME:	TATEL/OOMI ANT IN	ORMATION	SSN NO. OR T	AXPAYER ID NO.:
MAILING ADDRESS:				ER-CONTRACT CODE (If
			known) (Attach needed):	sheet if more space
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DIODUIDOEMENT OTATEMENT MAII INIC	ADDDECC (If different from a bound).		_	
DISBURSEMENT STATEMENT MAILING	3 ADDRESS (If different from above):			
CONTACT PERSON NAME:			TELEPHONE N	NUMBER:
			()	
SIGNATURE AND TITLE OF AUTHORIZ	.ED OFFICIAL:			
	FINANCIAL INSTITUTION	INFORMATION		
NAME:				
ADDRESS:				
ACH COORDINATOR NAME:			TELEPHONE I	NUMBER:
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NINE-DIGIT ROUTING TRANSIT NUMBI	ĒR		,	<u>'</u>
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Form designed using WordPerfect 6 NSN 7540-01-274-9925Prescribed by De	partment of Treasury	(Rev. 12/90)		

31 U S C 3322; 31 CFR 210

INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING SF-3881 FORM

- 1. Agency Information Section Federal agency prints or types the name and address of the Federal program agency originating the vendor/miscellaneous payment, agency identifier, agency location code, contact person name and telephone number of the agency. Also, the appropriate box for ACH format is checked.
- 2. Payee/Company Information Section Payee prints or types the name of the payee/company and address that will receive ACH vendor/miscellaneous payments, social security or taxpayer ID number, and contact person name and telephone number of the payee/company. Payee also verifies depositor account number, account title, and type of account entered by your financial institution in the Financial Institution Information Section.
- 3. Financial Institution Information Section Financial institution prints or types the name and address of the payee/company's financial institution who will receive the ACH payment, ACH coordinator name and telephone number, nine-digit routing transit number, depositor (payee/company) account title and account number. Also, the box for type of account is checked, and the signature, title, and telephone number of the appropriate financial institution official are included.

BURDEN ESTIMATE STATEMENT

The estimated average burden associated with this collection of information is 15 minutes per respondent or recordkeeper, depending on individual circumstances. Comments concerning the accuracy of this burden estimate and suggestions for reducing this burden should be directed to the Financial Management Service, Facilities Management Division, Property and Supply Branch, Room B-101, 3700 East-West Highway, Hyattsville, MD 20782 and the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (1510-0056), Washington, DC 20503.



Agricultural Marketing Service STOP 0253, Room 2610-South 1400 Independence Avenue, SW Washington, DC 20250

ADDRESS INFORMATION FOR AMS COMMODITY PURCHASE PROGRAM

	TIDDICEDO II (I OTC) III (I	TOTAL TRIVING CONTINUED IT I	CROINDLING								
	Vendor Name and Address:	Company Name:									
	Contracts will be awarded and	Contact:									
	mailed to address provided.	Address-Street:									
		Address-P.O. Box:									
		City, State, Zip:									
		Fed. Meat Insp. Est. No.									
		Or State Insp. No. as appropriate:									
		Phone: Fax:									
ļ		E-Mail Address:									
	Payment Disbursement Statement address:	Company Name:									
	Payments to Vendors must be	Contact:									
	made electronically. To set up	Address-Street:									
	electronic transfer, contact the Kansas City Mgmt. Office	Address-P.O. Box:									
	(816/926-6988)	City, State, Zip:									
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,		Phone:									
	ACH In Process	Taxpayer Identification No. (TIN #)									
İ	Plant Address:	Company Name:									
		Contact:									
	Vendor address is same for	Address-Street:									
	plant, write "Same".	Address-P.O. Box:									
	If multiple plants, attach	City, State, Zip:									
	additional pages.	Phone:									
İ	Plant's Shipping Point Address:	Company Name:									
	If Plant address is same for	Contact:									
	shipping, write "Same".	Address-Street:									
	If multiple chimping points attach	Address-P.O. Box:									
	If multiple shipping points, attach additional pages.	City, State, Zip:									
		Phone:									
İ	Notice to Deliver Address:	Company Name:									
		Contact: Address-Street:									
		Address-P.O. Box:									
		City, State, Zip:									
		Phone:									
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Signature & Title (Authorized Company Representative)

Date

SOLICITATION	MAILING	IST A		TION	11.	TYPE)F	APPLIC	CATI	ON		2. DATE		OMB No	.:9000-0002	
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INSTRUCTIONS

Persons or concerns wishing to be added to a particular agency's bidder's mailing list for supplies or services shall file this properly completed Solicitation Mailing List Application, together with such other lists as may be attached to this application form, with each procurement office of the rederal agency with which they desire to do business. If a Federal agency has attached a Supplemental Commodity list with instructions, complete the application as instructed. Otherwise, identify in Item 10 the equipment, supplies, and/or services on which you desire to bid. (Provide Federal Supply Class or Standard Industrial Classification codes, if available.) The application shall be submitted and signed by the principal as distinguished from an agent, however constituted.

After placement on the bidder's mailing list of an agency, your failure to respond (submission of bid, or notice in writing, that you are unable to bid on that particular transaction but wish to remain on the active bidder's mailing list for that particular item) to solicitations will be understood by the agency to indicate lack of interest and concurrence in the removal of your name from the purchasing activity's solicitation mailing for items concerned.

SIZE OF BUSINESS DEFINITIONS (See Item 11A.)

- a. Small business concern A small business concern for the purpose of Government procurement is a concern, including its affiliates, which is independently owned and operated, is not dominant in the field of operation in which it is competing for Government contracts, and can further qualify under the criteria concerning number of employees, average annual receipts, or the other criteria, as prescribed by the Small Business Administration. (See Code of Federal Regulations, Title 13, Part 121, as amended, which contains detailed industry definitions and related procedures.)
- b. Affiliates Business concerns are affiliates of each other when either directly or indirectly (i) one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or (ii) a third party controls or has the power to control both. In determining whether concerns are independently owned and operated and whether or not affiliation exists, consideration is given to all appropriate factors including common ownership, common management, and contractual relationship. (See Items 8 and 11A.)
- c. Number of employees (Item 11B) In connection with the determination of small business status, "number of employees" means the average employment of any concern, including the employees of its domestic and foreign affiliates, based on the number of persons employed on a full-time, part-time, temporary or other basis during each of the pay periods of the preceding 12 months. If a concern has not been in existence for 12 months, "number of employees" means the average employment of such concern and its affiliates during the period that such concern has been in existence based on the number of persons employed during each of the pay periods of the period that such concern has been in business.

TYPE OF OWNERSHIP DEFINITIONS (See Item 12.)

- a. "Disadvantaged business concern" means any business concern (1) which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals; or, in the case of any publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of the stock of which is owned by one or more socially and economically disadvantaged individuals; and (2) whose management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more of such individuals.
- b. "Women-owned business" means a business that is at least 51 percent owned by a woman or women who are U.S, citizens and who also control and operate the business.

TYPE OF BUSINESS DEFINITIONS (See Item 13.)

- a. "Manufacturer or producer" means a person (or concern) owning, operating, or maintaining a store, warehouse, or other establishment that produces, on the premises, the materials, supplies, articles or equipment of the general character of those listed in Item 10, or in the Federal Agency's Supplemental Commodity List, if attached.
- b. "Service establishment" means a concern (or person) which owns, operates, or maintains any type of business which is principally engaged in the furnishing of nonpersonal services, such as (but not limited to) repairing, cleaning, redecorating, or rental of personal property, including the furnishing of necessary repair parts or other supplies as a part of the services performed.

• COMMERCE BUSINESS DAILY - The Commerce Business Daily, published by the Department of Commerce, contains information concerning proposed procurements, sales, and contract awards, For further information concerning this publication, contact your local Commerce Field Office.